

NOV 10 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***In re* Application of:

§

BEFORE THE EXAMINER:

Stephen N. Vaughn et al.

§

Thuan D. Dang

Serial No.: 10/641,355

§

Group Art Unit No.: 1764

Filed: August 14, 2003

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Attorney Docket No.: 2000B028/2

USPTO Conf. No.: 1181

§

Customer No.: 23455

For: **STRIPPING HYDROCARBON IN  
AN OXYGENATE CONVERSION  
PROCESS**

§

Baytown, Texas

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE  
PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT**

Exxon Corporation, the owner of 100 percent interest in the instant application, by virtue of an Assignment, recorded on September 25, 2000, at Reel 011116, Frame 0331, hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. §§ 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of U.S. Patent No. 6,613,950. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This Agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.


Appl. No. 10/641,355

Reply to Office action of August 10, 2004

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. §§ 154 to 156 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321, has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

Respectfully submitted,

10 November 2004  
Date: November 10, 2004

  
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